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GOOD NEIGHBOR FOODS

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In 314

"Fortunately, for consumers in the United States, there's no staple food and practically no food delicacy that cannot be grown somewhere in this hemisphere," says _____.

(Name)

(Place)

(Title)

"For years we have counted on the countries of South America, Central America, and the islands of the Caribbean to supply us with many tropical or subtropical foods. And, now that trade with the Eastern Hemisphere is curtailed, we look southward to these neighbors for increasing amounts of other foods.

"As you munch your Christmas chocolates you can remember that supplies of cocoa in this hemisphere are ample. Tropical Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Venezuela are leading producers.

"We in the United States who drink nearly half the coffee consumed in the world, are right next door to the countries that supply the world. Most coffee is grown in South America, Central America, and the islands of the Caribbean, with Brazil way out ahead in production.

"Runner-up only to coffee in value of exports from the other Western Hemisphere republics to the United States is sugar. Ordinarily we in the continental United States grow about one-third of our own sugar, depend upon our insular areas and the Latin American countries--chiefly Cuba--for the rest.

"Of the tropical fruits, the banana is a favorite. These come to us the year round from sources in this hemisphere. Coconuts are grown most extensively on islands in the Pacific, but we have producers in the Caribbean and in Central America. Pineapple, another favorite fruit, grows in this hemisphere mainly in Cuba and Mexico.

"From our neighbor countries we import also varying quantities of tapioca flour, cashew nuts, molasses, dry vegetables, grapes, peaches, pears, melons, spices, vanilla, and other flavoring materials.

"As part of a long-time program to develop trade between the Americas, the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs has taken steps to stimulate production of many foods in the Latin-American Countries. These are foods we cannot grow successfully here because of climatic conditions or other reasons--or foods that we cannot grow in sufficient quantities for our own use."

